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NOTES

SALEM, Mass., has appropriated \$42,000 for a long-needed new high school building.

THE main boarding hall of East Greenwich (R. I.) Academy was totally destroyed by fire in the early morning of August 11th.

POLICE COMMISSIONER ROOSEVELT, of New York, announces that he wants academy graduates and high school men on his police force.

HENRY HOLT & CO. have nearly ready a systematic French Grammar, particularly full in syntax, by Professor Louis Bevier of Rutgers College.

THE Brooklyn School Board is opposed to the amalgamation of the schools of that city with those of New York City, as planned by the Greater New York Commission.

THE opening of the school year found many large cities with insufficient accommodations. Some day the building of schoolhouses may keep pace with the increase in population.

GINN & CO. publish this autumn Allen & Greenough's *Short Latin Grammar*, *First Principles of Natural Philosophy*, by A. E. Dolbear, and Allen & Greenough's *New Cicero*.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. have recently issued an American edition of Church's *Roman Life in the Days of Cicero*. The book is well printed, and is without illustrations. Price 50 cents.

BUFFALO'S new high school building, which is needed now and was to have been done by September 1st, is far from completion and will in all probability not be ready for use until spring.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY née College, will celebrate its sesqui-centennial October 20, 21, and 22. The three days' celebration will be composed of numerous events of an academic character, in which the students and alumni of the college will take part.

READERS of the SCHOOL REVIEW will kindly remember that the editor is always glad to receive reports, addresses, personal notes, in short anything bearing closely or remotely on secondary education. Much of the interest of the magazine will depend on the extent to which its friends remember it in this way.

ENCOURAGED by the success of Guerber's *Märchen und Erzählungen*, which went into a third edition in seven months after issue of the first, the publishers, D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, have now in press for immediate issue *Märchen und Erzählungen II*, to follow the former book, or to be used as an independent reader of greater difficulty.

THE next meeting of the Central Division of the Modern Language Association of America will occur at St. Louis, Mo., between Christmas and New Year. Those wishing to read papers are requested to address Professor Gustav Karsten, Bloomington, Ind. Membership is open to anyone interested in the study of modern languages. Further details will be published later.

SPECIAL attention is asked for the review of the first volume of the Report of the Royal Commission on Secondary Education on page 641 of this number of the SCHOOL REVIEW. The work of this commission is not only likely to be epoch making in the history of secondary education in Great Britain, but it is also, in its methods, materials and results, of greatest significance for comparative study by American teachers.

MASSACHUSETTS leads all the eastern states in the number of pupils in her high schools. The report of the state board of education shows that the attendance at the high schools has greatly increased in recent years. There are places where the attendance has been doubled; in some towns the percentage of children who attend the high schools is from 40 to 50 per cent. These are exceptional towns, it is true, but they show a state of affairs which is most gratifying.

THE state of Pennsylvania has established a College and University Council to have an oversight in certain directions of the institutions representing the higher education of the state. These are numerous, and many of them efficient. There is at present, however, a gap between the public school system of the state and these institutions, comparatively few of the high schools carrying their pupils far enough to enable them to take advantage of their courses of instruction.

THE Board of Education of the City of New York, on September 16, 1896, passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Board of Superintendents be and the same is hereby requested to report, with the changes and modifications of the course of study in our schools, now under consideration, a plan or method for the systematic training of pupils in citizenship and the rights and duties thereupon dependent.

A Short History of Greece, by W. S. Robinson, is an attractive little volume recently published by The Macmillan Company. It "is intended for

younger students before they reach the standard of such books as Smith's or Oman's histories." The author seems to have succeeded excellently in producing an interesting and continuous narrative of Greek history, without writing down the subject to the level that some of our most elementary text-books reduce it, and undoubtedly there are many American schools which will welcome this book. Price \$1.00.

AN excellent collection of geometrical models, valued at several thousand dollars, has been added recently to the equipment of Yale University. The models are made of polished brass and glass, and were constructed under the personal supervision of Professor Andrew W. Phillips. Photographs of these models have been reproduced in "Elements of Geometry," by Andrew W. Phillips and Irving Fisher, professors in Yale, just published by Harper & Brothers. Photo-engravings, arranged side by side with skeleton drawings, give reality and meaning to the illustrations.

THE New England Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools meets this year on October 9 and 10. The papers will be by Dr. John Tetlow and President T. C. Mendenhall. President Eliot of Harvard will be one of the leaders in discussion. The address on the evening of October 9 will, it is expected, be given by President J. G. Schurman of Cornell University. Dr. Tetlow's subject will be "Options in Admission Requirements;" President Mendenhall's, "Admission Requirements for Schools of Technology." The December number of the SCHOOL REVIEW will contain a complete report of the meeting, furnished by the accomplished secretary of the association, Dr. Ray Greene Huling, of Cambridge, Mass.

A RECENT issue from the Clarendon Press [New York, The Macmillan Co.] is Dr. Buchheim's edition of Schiller's *Maria Stuart*. It is several years since the work was first announced, but Dr. Buchheim's standards are high and the student of the drama is without doubt a gainer by the delay. With the same painstaking care exhibited in his well-known edition of *Wilhelm Tell* Dr. Buchheim has traced the authorities which the poet drew upon in the composition of the play and the serious student of the drama is thereby enabled more easily to appreciate the poet's conception of the work. An account of these authorities is given in one of the divisions of the critical introduction, and it seems that Dr. Buchheim's researches have enabled him to add to the list. The introduction is all that could be asked for and the work ought to prove valuable for use with advanced classes.

THE last legislature in Nebraska enacted a law which provides for the free attendance of students whose education cannot be profitably carried further in their own districts, at some neighboring public high school, tuition at the rate of fifty cents per week being paid to such high school by the county in which the student resides. The law is very popular in most

counties and has resulted in bringing into the high schools of the state, even during the first year of its operation, more than two thousand students from the country districts, thus materially increasing the revenues of the high schools. The law stimulates the high schools to do better work and so tends toward a better standard for them. Students must have a certificate of proficiency in the common school work from the county superintendent, and this tends to encourage better instruction in these schools. The state superintendent determines annually what high schools are properly equipped as to teachers, apparatus and course of study to receive students under the law.

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE

ROYAL COMMISSION ON SECONDARY EDUCATION (BRITISH), *Volume I of the Report.*

THE commissioners' interpretation of the directions given them and the leading motives guiding them in their investigations and recommendations are indicated in the following extracts:

"Our aim has been to draw the outlines of a system which shall combine the maximum of simplicity with the minimum disturbance of existing arrangements." . . . "Believing we would retard the accomplishment of the necessary reforms were we to recommend a clean sweep of existing agencies and the substitution for them of something altogether new, we have retained some things which more trenchant reformers might have desired to destroy for the sake of their future rebuilding, and have endeavored to simplify by way of organization and consolidation. And in modifying existing authorities and agencies, we have sought to increase their usefulness by bringing them into harmonious relations with one another." Again, with reference to private institutions: "In the belief that it is not so much by superseding, as by aiding and focusing voluntary effort that real progress may be made, we have planned to turn private and proprietary schools to good account, and have discountenanced any idea of driving them out of the field." . . . "Like motives have guided us in considering financial resources and their application, and we have aimed, not at imposing fresh burdens upon the taxpayer, whether local or general, but rather at measures of reform and consolidation, which may turn existing sources of revenue to the best account." . . . "The system which we desire to see introduced may rather be described as coherence, an organic relation between different kinds of schools which will enable each to work with due regard to the work to be done by the others, and will therewith avoid waste both of effort and of money."

These extracts indicate the guiding trend of motive, evident throughout the report. The commission felt that too much that was good and substantial